

CLAIMS:

1. A composition for the percutaneous administration of an opioid analgesic which includes a component susceptible to co-extraction with the opioid analgesic and which, when administered orally or by injection after extraction by an abuser will distress the abuser.
2. A composition for the percutaneous administration of an opioid analgesic which comprises a therapeutic amount of the opioid analgesic in association with a vehicle or means for providing a transdermal flux of the opioid analgesic when applied to a human body surface or membrane and a quantity of a distressing substance which, when ingested orally or as parenteral bolus injection together with the opioid analgesic will produce a distressful reaction in the recipient.
3. A composition according to claim 1 or 2, wherein the distressing substance is chosen from emetics, nauseants and flavouring or bitter substances.
4. A composition according to claim 3, wherein the distressing substance chosen from ergolides; quaternary ammonium compounds; non-permeant opioid antagonists; other opioid antagonists; emetics; and atropine or salts thereof.
5. A composition according to any preceding claim, wherein the distressing substance is non-permeant and is incorporated in a vehicle being the same vehicle as for the opioid analgesic.
6. A composition according to claim 5, wherein the vehicle includes a penetration enhancer.
7. A composition according to any preceding claim, wherein the opioid analgesic is chosen from morphine, hydromorphone, buprenorphine, ketamine, fentanyl, tramadol, or pharmaceutically acceptable and percutaneously transmissible salts thereof.

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8. A composition according to any preceding claim wherein the opioid analgesic is a narcotic opioid analgesic.
9. A composition according to any preceding claim, wherein the opioid analgesic is in an aqueous and/or alcoholic solution, or incorporated in a matrix including a pressure sensitive adhesive.
10. A transdermal device containing a composition according to any preceding claim.
11. A device according to claim 10, which is an adhesive matrix patch and comprises an impermeable backing layer, a matrix layer which contains the opioid analgesic and a penetration enhancer and distressing substance.
12. A device according to claim 10, which is a reservoir device.
13. A device according to claim 10, which is monolithic patch.
14. A composition according to any of claims 1 to 9, or a device according to any of claims 10 to 13, which contains buprenorphine or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof as the opioid analgesic and atropine or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, or an ergolide or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof as the distressing substance.

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